# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# ATOMIC ENERGY
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4311
ANSWERED ON:24.08.2005
EXPANSION PROGRAMME OF UCIL
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**Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the Uranium Corporation of India Limited (UCIL) has a massive expansion programme to construct new mines and plants in various parts of the country during 2004-05;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the targets fixed for such new mines and plants and the progress recorded so far in each case;

(d) the details of the mines and process plants pending for environment clearance as on date since when each of such proposals were pending;

(e) the reasons for delay in getting clearance in each case; and

(f) the steps taken for the expeditious clearance?

## Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER`S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN)

(a)&(b) Yes, Sir. Uranium Corporation of India Limited (UCIL), a public sector undertaking of this Department had initiated action to undertake following projects for mining and milling of Uranium ore in various parts of the country during 2004-05. (i) Banduhurang opencast mine in Singhbhum (E) district of Jharkhand. (ii) Bagjata mine in Singhbhum (E) district of Jharkhand. (iii) Mohuldih mine in Kharswan-Saraikela district of Jharkhand (iv) Turamdih Mill in Singhbhum (E) district of Jharkhand (v) Kylleng-Pyndengsohiong, Mowthabah mining & milling project in West Khasi Hills district of Meghalaya(Formerly known as Domiasiat uranium mining & milling project) (vi) Lambapur-Peddagattu uranium mining and milling project in Nalgonda district of Andhra Pradesh (vii) Tummalapalle uranium mining and milling project in Kadappa district of Andhra Pradesh

(c) Details of targets & progress so far:

(i) Banduhurang opencast Mine : Zero date : 17.04.05 and target completion period : 2 years. Work is in progress as scheduled.

(ii) Bagjata Mine : Zero date : 01.04.05 and target completion period : 3 years. Work is in progress as scheduled.

(iii) Mohuldih Mine : Project has been approved by AEC. Expected zero date : 01.04.06 and target completion period : 4 years. Work will commence after receipt of Environmental Clearance from MOEF.

(iv) Turamdih Mill : Work is in progress as scheduled and the plant is expected to be commissioned in March, 2006.

(v) Kylleng-Pyndengsohiong, Mowthabah mining & Milling project : Project has been approved by AEC. Project has been planned for & 3.5 years completion period,but zero date is yet to be fixed for want of clearance from the Govt. of Meghalaya.

(vi) Lambapur-Peddagattu mining & milling Project : Project has been approved by AEC. Expected zero date : 01.04.06 and target completion period : 3.5 years.

(vii) Tummalapalle mining & milling project : Exploratory mining has been carried out to produce ore for pilot scale study to establish process flow sheet. The ongoing pilot scale study has been showing encouraging results.

(d) Details of the mines and process plants-pending for environmental clearance:

(i) Mohuldih mine : Jharkhand Pollution Control Board has notified for Public Hearing to be conducted on 29.08.2005.

(ii) Kylleng-Pyndengsohiong, Mowthabah mining & milling project :Application has been submitted by UCIL to Meghalaya Pollution Control Board on 14.10.2004 for obtaining NOC.

(iii) Lambapur-Peddagattu mining & milling project : For Mines : Application was submitted by UCIL to A.P. Pollution Control Board on 26.5.2003. Environmental Public Hearing was conducted on 19.8.2003. Secretary, Ministry of Env., Forest, Sc. & Technology, Govt. of A.P. has forwarded the proposal to MOEF on 03.01.2005 without issuing 'NOC' to UCIL. UCIL has submitted application to MOEF on 12.3.2005 for environmental clearance.

For Process Plant : Application for new site of process plant at Seripally was submitted by UCIL to A.P. Pollution Control Board on 03.12.2004 and Environmental Public Hearing conducted on 03.03.2005. Queries raised during public hearing have been replied by UCIL on 23.07.2005

(e) Reasons for delay in obtaining environmental clearance:Mohuldih Mine - There is no delay. Jharkhand Pollution Control Board has notified for Environmental Public Hearing to be conducted on 29.8.2005 as per statutory requirement.Kylleng-Pyndengsohiong, Mowthabah − It is under consideration of the Meghalaya State Pollution Control Board. Few NGOs like Khasi Students Union (KSU), Meghalaya Human Rights Council (MHRC) are opposing the proposed uranium project. Lambapur-Peddagattu Mine − Some NGOs are opposing uranium mining at Lambapur-Peddagattu.

(f) Steps taken to get such clearance :

Kylleng-Pyndengsohiong, Mowthabah −Number of awareness programmes are being conducted to allay fear on radiation. Independent report on radiation prepared by BARC has been submitted to the state government on its request. Visits of villagers, landowners, ministers, state Govt. officials, NGOs, Journalists were arranged at Jaduguda to gather first-hand information regarding mining and milling of uranium ore and other related issues like radiation, health hazards etc. UCIL is pursuing with the State Pollution Control Board for conducting Environment al Public Hearing. UCIL is also pursuing with the State Govt. for favouring UCIL's proposal of setting up uranium project.

Lambapur-Peddagattu - UCIL has been pursuing with the State Pollution Control Board as well as MOEF for early environmental clearance enabling UCIL to commence project construction activities as per schedule on 01.04.2006.